



BOROUGH OF PUDSEY.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1943.

E. ORMOND BOWIE,
L.A.H.I., D.P.H., L.M.

B O R O U G H O F P U D S E Y .

1943.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR D. V. HODGSON, J.P.

Deputy Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. PICKARD.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR—Councillor Ernest Dufton, J.P.

Alderman R. OGDEN,

„ R. L. WYLDE.

Councillor J. W. BINKS,

„ T. CROFT,

„ G. P. JACKSON,

„ H. KEIGHLEY,

„ P. W. WOOD.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Members of the Health Committee, together with the following
co-opted Ladies:—

Mrs. H. MORTON,

Mrs. C. ROBINSON,

Mrs. C. A. PEARSON,

Mrs. J. TORDOFF,

Mrs. S. WILCOCK.

B O R O U G H O F P U D S E Y .

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

E. O. BOWIE, L.A.H.I., D.P.H., L.M.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

H. FOSTER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.P.S., Certs. (Smoke, Meat and Foods, Sanitary Science) R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors.

E. CHEATLE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. (Smoke) R.S.I. (Resigned 14/3/43).

B. SHAW, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., L.A.R.P., Cert. (Meat and Foods) R.S.I. (Resigned 11/7/43).

D. H. EVANS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., L.A.R.P. Cert. (Meat and Foods) R.S.I. (Appointed 17/5/43).

L. DEARDEN, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. (Meat and Foods) R.S.I. (Appointed 1/10/43).

Health Visitors.

Miss R. E. FAWCETT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (Resigned 27/2/43).

Miss N. MATHER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. G. M. HUGGAN, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Part-time).

Miss M. CAVERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (Resigned 31/1/43).

Miss M. BAGOT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (Appointed 22/3/43). (Resigned 10/9/43).

Miss E. B. WHITAKER, S.R.N., S.C.M., C.R.S.I., H.V.Cert. (Appointed 1/4/43).

Municipal Midwives.

Mrs. M. RUST, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. C. E. ORMANDY, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss L. HOLLAND, S.C.M. (Part-time).

Miss G. A. SMITH, S.C.M. (Resigned 6/3/43).

Mrs. F. M. GREENWOOD, S.C.M. (Appointed 11/3/43).

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Mr. F. W. GOYDER, F.R.C.S.

Masseuse.

Miss N. F. HARRISON, C.S.M.M.G. (Resigned 12/3/43).

Miss K. M. SPENCER, C.S.M.M.G. (Appointed 29/3/43). Resigned 10/7/43).

Miss R. DRUMMOND, C.S.M.M.G. (Appointed 7/10/43).

Providence House, Wartime Nursery — Matron.

Miss E. MOORE, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Littlemoor Road, Wartime Nursery — Matron.

Mrs. O. BUTLER, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Appointed 1/3/43). Resigned 12/8/43).

Mrs. M. TYE, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Appointed 7/10/43).

Clerical Staff.

xJ. A. HIRST, Cert. S.I.B.

Mrs. A. M. PEET.

Miss R. BRAITHWAITE.

Miss N. W. McEVOY.

xDied whilst on active service.

Public Health Department,
St. Lawrence House,
PUDSEY.

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEES.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present to you for your information my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough of Pudsey for the year 1943.

With the exception of the Orthopaedic Clinic which has not quite settled down since its inception, there has been little change.

Miss M. Bagot has filled the vacancy created by the resignation of Miss Cavers, and Miss E. B. Whitaker that of Miss R. E. Fawcett in the Health Department, and in the Maternity Section Mrs. F. M. Greenwood replaced Miss Gertrude Smith as Midwife at Calverley.

In the Orthopaedic Department we have had some quick changes following almost one on top of another. Miss N. F. Harrison was succeeded by Miss K. M. Spencer, and she in turn by Miss R. Drummond, all in the same year.

The Welfare Centres in the four districts continue to show good progress and the attendances at the Ante-Natal Clinics are satisfactory and good, especially those at Pudsey.

On March 1st, the second Wartime Nursery was opened, this one at Littlemoor Road. It is a maycrete hut for the accommodation of 40 children. Mrs. Butler is the Matron in Charge.

During the year we heard with deep regret of the sudden and untimely death of Mr. J. A. Hirst who was Chief Clerk in this Department for 18 months and left to answer the call of duty in July, 1939. I had not the pleasure of personally working with him but have heard from many quarters of his ability and genial personality.

I wish to thank the members of the Public Health Staff for their co-operation and help and beg once more to acknowledge the help received from my professional colleagues.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

E. O. BOWIE.

SECTION A — STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

BIRTH RATES.

	1942	1943
Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population)	14.06	13.41
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births)	30.87	34.73
Live and Still Births (per 1,000 estimated population)	14.51	13.9

DEATH RATES.

(per 1,000 estimated population).

	1942	1943
All Causes (Crude)	12.82	13.27
Phthisis	0.24	0.27
Respiratory Diseases	1.55	2.07
Cancer	1.75	1.82
Heart Disease	3.24	3.14
Puerperal Causes (per 1,000 live and still births):—		
Puerperal sepsis	2.37	0.00
Other puerperal causes	7.12	4.96
Death rate of Infants under one year of age:—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births	49.01	59.12
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	40.81	51.41
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	125.00	166.6

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS 1943.

	Pudsey	England and Wales.
Birth Rate (per 1,000 resident population)	13.41	16.5
Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 resident population)	0.48	0.51
Infant Mortality Rate	59.12	49.00
Maternal Mortality Rate:—		
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	0.00	0.39
(b) from other causes	4.96	1.45
Total (a and b)	4.96	1.84

Death Rates.

Per 1,000 Civilian population:—

All causes	13.27	12.1
Measles	0.00	0.02
Scarlet Fever	0.06	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.03
Diphtheria	0.06	0.03
Influenza	0.24	0.37

Per 1,000 Live Births:—

Deaths under 1 year of age	59.12	49.00
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	7.71	5.3

SECTION B — GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. STAFF.

Full details of the Staff of the Department are given at the beginning of this report.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Ambulance Service continues under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health. The number of cases dealt with during the year is as follows:—

Medical Cases	1033.
Street Accident Cases	147
Works Accident Cases	142
Public Assistance Cases	90
	—
Total	1412
	—

For the removal of cases of infectious disease to the Isolation Hospital, a special Ambulance is available from Bradford City Health Department through the Calverley Joint Hospital.

3. HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS.

During the year no further change has occurred to that already in operation and as stated in my previous reports, the Council accept responsibility for the payment of the cost of treatment at Leeds Maternity Hospital in cases where, after examination at the Ante-Natal Clinics, the Medical Officer of Health considers that their confinement might be abnormal, or in cases sent to Hospital as an emergency by general practitioners, and now owing to the pressure on the beds at Leeds Maternity Hospital, certain types of Midwifery cases are treated at St. James's Hospital, Leeds. The cost is recovered from the patient according to the Council's scale of income.

4. MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

The arrangements made in connection with this service still continue to operate.

The Midwives are available to act in the capacity of either Midwife or Maternity Nurse as required.

The Relief Nurse that was promised by the County Council has been appointed, and Nurse E. Sandford, S.R.N., S.C.M., took up her duties in this capacity for Batley, Morley, Pudsey and Spenborough, and commenced her duties so far as Pudsey was concerned on the 21st January, 1943. I personally do not see this arrangement working satisfactorily, as the area she is appointed to relieve is far too extensive to be adequately served by one Midwife.

In the Borough of Pudsey, there is one anomaly I would like to point out, and that is the presence in the village of Farsley of a Midwife over which the Medical Officer of Health has no control, although

Farsley is within the Borough of Pudsey. I feel very strongly that some steps should be taken by the Council to bring Farsley's Midwife under the direction of this authority. It will make for better administration of the Midwifery Service. It seems to me a very strange procedure that this part of the Borough is under the control of an Authority quite independent of this Council. The people of Farsley are part and parcel of the Borough of Pudsey, as are the people of Calverley, and should not be looked upon as independent entities.

5. HEALTH VISITORS.

No further change has taken place in connection with the Health Visitors, and so we still have three full-time and one part-time Health Visitor employed by the Council.

6. NURSING IN THE HOME.

This is carried out by five District Nursing Associations as follows:—

Pudsey District Nurse Association,
Stanningley and Farsley District Nursing Association,
Calverley District Nursing Association,
Rodley District Nursing Association,
Bradford District Nursing Association.

The Pudsey Association looks after the whole of the Borough of Pudsey, the Stanningley and Farsley Association takes under its wing the whole of Farsley. The Farsley Nurse also undertakes attendance at maternity cases as either Midwife or Maternity Nurse. The Calverley Association embraces the whole of Calverley down to Brookfield Avenue, and the Rodley District Nurse practices under the auspices of the Rodley District Nursing Association, from and including Brookfield Avenue, the whole of Calverley Bridge and up to and including Bagley Lane. The Nurse from the Bradford Association serves the Tyersal Estate.

7. CLINIC ARRANGEMENTS. INFANT WELFARE.

Clinics continue to be held at St. Lawrence House, Pudsey, Back Lane Methodist School, Farsley, Chapel Street, Calverley, and Tyersal Terrace, Tyersal. They are well attended, but I still feel that we would better meet the requirements of the burgesses if we took the clinics to the people and not expect the people to come to the clinics. With this object in view, three more clinics ought to be established, one at Pudsey Lane End, one near the Roker Estate, and a third at the Lowtown Church Sunday School.

The one at Pudsey Lane End would serve the people from the Pudsey part of Thornbury and Bolton Royd and Ederoyd Estates, who now have to come all the way to the Farsley Clinic, a long, tedious and tiring journey to trundle a baby.

The one near the Roker Estate would cover the whole of Roker Estate, Roker Lane to the boundary of Farnley, the whole of Troydale, the Roker side of Fulneck, and the whole of the Southroyd Estate.

The proposed clinic at Lowtown would cover, Crimbles, the Pudsey part of Houghside, and The Lanes.

This now would adequately cover every corner of the Borough, and will serve the needs of three times the number of people who now seek advice and attention.

The Medical Officer of Health attends personally at all the Clinics. Defects found, if of a minor character, are treated at the Clinics, otherwise the parent is referred to the family doctor for further attention.

The following attendances were made at the Child Welfare Centres during the year:—

Name of Centre.	Total Attendances.	
	0—1	1—5
Pudsey Clinic	2757	1020
Farsley Clinic	1749	1025
Calverley Clinic	853	875
Tyersal Clinic	558	232

8. ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

The Medical Officer of Health holds Ante-Natal Clinics at Pudsey, Calverley and Tyersal, and shortly expects to open an Ante-Natal Clinic at Farsley. Expectant mothers are encouraged to attend the Ante-Natal Clinic once per month up to the eighth month and then weekly until delivery, where necessary. Cases showing any abnormality are referred to the consultant obstetricians at Leeds Maternity Hospital.

All mothers attending the Ante-Natal Clinic and others who attend the Child Welfare Clinic for the first time within six weeks of delivery are advised to attend the Post-Natal Clinic, with I regret to say, but little success. This is very unfortunate, although every effort has been made to point out to mothers the need for such attendance.

254 women attended the Ante-Natal Clinics during the year, making 783 attendances. 1 woman attended the Post-Natal Clinic.

9. DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Facilities are available whereby expectant and nursing mothers can obtain financial assistance towards the cost of dental treatment by their own dentist, the amount of assistance allowed being decided according to a scale based on family income.

10. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This much needed Clinic has been unfortunately badly served owing to the many changes of Masseuses, each successive one leaving for better appointments under other Authorities. In spite of this, the numbers on the register remain high which is evidence enough of the great need of such a Clinic in Pudsey. We have had three changes during the year, and now Miss R. Drummond, who was appointed in October, remains in charge. Even with all these many changes there have been 2,738 attendances at this Clinic during the year.

11. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

This section of the Public Health activities of the Borough goes from strength to strength, and we have almost reached saturation point in connection with the immunisation of children under school age, and showing signs of reaching this much desired condition in those of school age. The total number of children immunised during the year was 826.

12. DISTRIBUTION OF FRUIT JUICES AND CODLIVER OIL.

In February of this year another change was made in the distribution of these Vitamin contained preparations. A Circular was received from the Ministry of Health stating that Day Nurseries are now regarded as distributing centres for these preparations for children attending the Nurseries, and so Providence House and Littlemoor Road Nurseries began to issue Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices, thus saving the parents the trouble of going to the Clinics to collect them.

The charge for these issues remains unaltered, viz:—

Cod Liver Oil 10d. per bottle.

Orange Juice 5d. per bottle.

Black Currant Syrup and Black Currant Puree now being discontinued.

Then in July Vitamin A and D Tablets were made available by the Ministry of Health to expectant mothers, and a packet of 45 of these Tablets costs 10d., which the expectant mother can have instead of Cod Liver Oil if she so desires. Further, these preparations are issued free where the income is within the limits prescribed under the National Milk Scheme, which is at present £2 where both parents are living, and 27/6d. where one parent is living, and in each case there is 6/- given in addition for each child.

13. SCABIES.

In February I made arrangements along with the County Medical Officer to treat cases of Scabies occurring in this Borough, at the Olivet First-Aid Post, Bradford Road, Stanningley. Children are treated between the hours of 6 and 7 p.m., and adults between 8 and 9 p.m. every Thursday. In October the Session for children was changed to the afternoon on account of the black-out, and this is now held from 3 to 4 p.m.

The following cases were treated during the year:—

Men.	Women.	Children.
13	64	144

This is a disease that ought never to be present in any civilised community. Plain soap and water will suffice to banish the disease as a communal nuisance if applied liberally and often, and the garments next to the skin kept reasonably clean. It is the dirty condition into which these garments are allowed to get into, and the dirtier surroundings of the homes themselves and the indifference presented to that often voiced slogan—Where there's dirt there's danger—that accounts for the persistence of this avoidable disease which is costing so much in time and money, time that could be profitably spent in other

and more important sections of Public Health work. If we can cleanse these infected bodies, surely the people themselves can do likewise, as the methods to be employed are so simple and so easily and readily available to all.

I feel strongly that more stringent measures ought to be employed than those at present in force, especially where school children are concerned. Further Public Shower Baths ought to be provided in various parts of the Borough, and men and women and children encouraged to make liberal use of them. A clean body would necessarily need clean clothes, and so in this way people will gradually be led to make use of one of the avenues of health.

14. HEAD LICE.

This unfortunate and certainly avoidable condition has received very particular attention in this Borough, and the Health Visitors and the School Nurse have been instructed to advise mothers as to how easy it is to rid oneself of this unnecessary evil by the simple and regular use of soap and water and daily brushing and combing of the hair.

Further, I have personally addressed the children of the Senior Schools and have issued instructional leaflets to the parents, especially to those of the persistent and regular offenders. Posters have been exhibited at the various Nurseries and in addition to all this special visits are made to the Schools where Lethane Oil (384—"Special") is applied to the hair of the defaulters, and this oil is even issued at the School Clinics to the parents of children who find it difficult to keep their hair free of this unwelcome visitor. To obtain a general standard of cleanliness and habits talks are given to parents accompanying children at the school medical inspections. Further, metal combs have been issued to mothers and they have been instructed in their use. Much time is given to this side of health work and much time is expended to keep up as high a standard as possible, and parents are made to realise their part in this scheme and that lack of attention points to neglect by them of their children and indifference to their health and cleanliness. I am pleased to have to report that there is co-operation, but I would like to see this more readily and energetically tackled by those whose primary responsibility it is—as I am strongly of the opinion that this is entirely a family matter, and so much of our valuable time ought not to be taken up in advising and instructing modern people to rid themselves of vermin.

The inspection of heads at the schools is done weekly by the School Nurse and her assistant. In the Nursery Class Huts and in the Day Nurseries, a daily inspection is instituted and the mothers spoken to and advised as to the simple and easy way in which the infestation can be got rid of should this be necessary. In this way the heads of the children attending the two latter sections of our activities in Pudsey have been kept perfectly free of nits and head lice. In addition to all this a monthly report is issued to the Authorities showing comparative figures and a list of names is kept of defaulters who are visited more frequently, and should it be necessary notices will be served on those that disregard all advice and fail to comply with our requirements, but this so far we have found unnecessary. In this way I have been able to keep the heads of the children in Pudsey clean, and the percentage of infected heads at a very low level.

15. TUBERCULOSIS.

All cases of Tuberculosis coming within the Borough are notified to the Medical Officer of Health who in turn notifies them to the County Medical Officer. 17 cases were notified during the year. Further, any suspected cases discovered by the Medical Officer of Health himself at any of his Clinics or sent to him by the Local Practitioners, are referred to the Tuberculosis Officer of the West Riding County Council who attends on Tuesday afternoon at the Tuberculosis Dispensary held at Wanstead, Richardshaw Lane, Pudsey.

16. VENEREAL DISEASES.

The arrangements for the treatment of Venereal Disease remain unchanged during the year under review, and this matter is dealt with by the County Medical Officer, particulars of which appear in his Annual Report.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES RECEIVED DURING 1943.

Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Scarlet Fever	199
Diphtheria	26
Acute Pneumonia	33
Erysipelas	8
Tuberculosis (a) Respiratory	13
Tuberculosis (b) Other Forms	4
Measles	253
Whooping Cough	97
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3
Total ...	637

Cases of Infectious Diseases admitted to Hospital:—

Scarlet Fever	160
Diphtheria	26
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2
Total ...	189

SECTION C — SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

I am indebted to Mr. James L. Hill, M.Inst.M. and Cy.E., Borough Surveyor, for the following report regarding Sewage Disposal in the Borough.

1. The sewage is dealt with in four portions:—

- (a) Houghside Sewage Works consists of detritus tank, precipitation tanks, storm tank, percolating filters, humus tanks and land treatment. Milk of lime is used as a precipitant and sludge is disposed of on drying beds.
- (b) Smalewell Sewage Works consists of precipitation, storm water and humus tanks with filtration by percolating and land filters. Sludge is disposed of on drying beds and aluminoferric is used as a precipitant.
- (c) Sewage from Farsley, and
- (d) Calverley is treated at the Rodley Works of the Leeds Corporation.

Sewage Flow for 1943.

	Houghside. Gallons.	Smalewell. Gallons.
Total volume treated	246,252,000	71,384,000
Average daily flow	674,660	195,440
Average week-day flow	760,540	200,620
Avg. week-day dry weather flow	535,000	134,300
Avg. Sunday dry weather flow	280,000	117,000

Rainfall (Houghside) 24.80 inches.

Composition of Sewage.

Mainly domestic in origin and contains approximately 50% trade waste at Houghside Works, and 20% trade waste at Smalewell Works.

Strength of Sewage.

The sewage at Houghside Works absorbs more than 15 parts per 100,000 of oxygen from acid KMnO_4 in four hours and is, therefore, classed as very strong. At Smalewell Works the sewage is bordering on strong (O_2 absorption = 12/100,000).

Character of Sewage.

The sewage at Houghside Works is a very difficult one from a treatment point of view in so far as it is highly colloidal, a feature which renders essential the use of precipitants, but which at the same time restricts the choice of precipitant which will achieve satisfactory results. The main trade wastes which give the sewage this undesirable feature are discharges from woollen mills, tanneries, and grease works. The sewage at Smalewell Works responds fairly readily to normal treatment. Difficulty with irregular trade waste flushes is experienced.

Average Analyses for 1943.

Parts per 100,000 of O_2 absorbed from acid KMnO_4 , in four hours:—

	Houghside—	
Crude Sewage	18.61	
Tank Effluent	5.66	= 69.58% Purification.
Humus Effluent	3.09	= 83.40% Purification.
Final Effluent	1.94	= 89.58% Purification.

Smalewell—

Crude Sewage	12.13	
Tank Effluent	5.20	= 57.13% Purification.
Humus Effluent	1.62	= 86.64% Purification.
Final Effluent	1.16	= 90.44% Purification.

West Riding Rivers Board.

No serious complaints of the condition of the works or of the state of the final effluent have been received.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the Borough is obtained from the City of Bradford Waterworks Department.

There are two supplies of water to the Borough of Pudsey from Bradford, one to Calverley and the other to Pudsey proper. The water going to Calverley is from the low level works—Barden Aqueduct—from here it passes to the Gilstead slow sand filter from where it is passed to the Heaton service reservoir and a branch is taken off at Shipley to supply Calverley, that is to say, the water for Calverley is slow sand filtered, at the Gilstead filter. The Pudsey proper supply is taken from the intermediate level water-works, which are the Angram and Scar House Reservoirs, which are empounding reservoirs on the River Nidd. From here it is taken to Chellow Heights where it is passed through rapid gravity filters and then through slow sand filters, and then sent on to Pudsey proper—in both cases the water is chlorinated at the filtration works.

The sufficiency and quality of the Water Supply of the area and of its several parts is adequate and good. The supply to the whole of the Borough is constant and there are only seven houses and one farm in the Borough which do not receive their supplies of water from the Street Mains. There are no Stand Pipes whatever in the Town, each house is supplied direct from the Towns Mains.

This Authority has not taken any tests regarding plumbo-solvent action nor has it taken any tests on the contamination of the water by lead, but I am informed by the Waterworks Engineer of Bradford from whose city Pudsey takes its supply of water in bulk, that at a recent test taken by the City Analyst, lead content was nil—action of water on bright lead surface after twenty-four hours, 1/25th of a grain per gallon.

During 1943 the Pudsey Waterworks Department carried out the following work:—

Ferrules Inserted	38
Inspection of Plumbing Work	69
Washers fixed on Taps	973
New Metered Supplies	11
Meters changed	34
Houses Visited and Taps Inspected	25,204
Valves Examined	4,265
Hydrants Flushed	4,475
Houses on Public Supply	10,000
Mainlaying Carried Out	327yds.

Consumption of Water.

	Year ending	March 31st.
	Gallons.	Gallons.
	1943/4	1942/3
Domestic Supply	188,213,000	191,568,000
Trade Supply	76,115,000	81,866,000
Total	264,328,000	273,434,000

BOROUGH OF PUDSEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1943.

H. FOSTER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.P.S., Certs.
(Smoke, Meat and Foods, Sanitary Science) R.S.I.

Sanitary Department,
5, Manor House Street,
Pudsey.

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE
YEAR 1943.**

To the Medical Officer of Health, Pudsey,
Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the work of the Sanitary Department for the year 1943.

In doing so I wish to express my appreciation of the efforts made by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee in the interests of public health during the above year.

Staff.

During the year changes have taken place in the inspectorial staff. Mr. E. Cheatle obtained a similar appointment with the Hebburn U.D.C. and resigned his post in Pudsey on 14th March, 1943. He was duly succeeded by Mr. D. H. Evans, of Rugby, who took up his appointment on 17th May, 1943. Mr. B. Shaw resigned on 11th July, 1943, to take up a similar appointment with the Flaxton R.D.C. and was succeeded by Mr. L. Dearden, of Dearne, who took up his appointment here on 1st October, 1943.

Movements of staff are to be deprecated and it does seem necessary that all appointments of this kind, which are subject to Ministry of Health sanction, should be advertised at a scale which applies throughout the Country for similar posts. Sanitary Inspectors become more valuable to their employing authority each successive year that their local knowledge grows. Such a scale of salaries would to a great extent enable Local Authorities to retain their staff.

The above changes have had a tendency to reduce the number of routine inspections made as the Department was thus short of an inspector for over three months.

I am particularly indebted to Miss N. W. McEvoy for the able manner in which she has dealt with the office routine. It is my opinion that the office work is now of such magnitude that an additional clerk is required. This would have the effect of relieving Miss McEvoy of much of the routine work and would also enable the Sanitary Inspectors to devote more time to outside work.

Work of Sanitary Inspectors.

(a) Housing Repairs.

Due to the shortage of labour and materials much delay has occurred in securing the abatement of nuisances where housing repairs have been necessary and much tact has had to be used by the staff in their dealings with both owners and tenants. Due to these fundamental reasons there has been a progressive deterioration in the condition of

house property during the war period. Towards the end of the year the Government, in an effort to remedy the serious position, granted powers to Local Authorities. In cases where repairs, etc. to dwelling-houses are essential Local Authorities may assist an owner to secure materials and labour up to a maximum cost of £250 per house. Sufficient time has not elapsed to show the value of this scheme but I believe that if a correct interpretation is placed upon it by Local Authorities and owners, much progress can be made in saving property from further deterioration and so relieve an urgent housing need.

(b) Food.

Every attention has been given to the inspection of food and premises where food is prepared. A large amount of foodstuffs, chiefly canned goods, has been examined for unfitness resulting in the condemnation of a large proportion.

Milk production in the Borough has been carefully supervised and as can be seen from the statistics in this Report, frequent visits have been made to cowsheds and dairies and many samples of milk have been obtained for bacteriological examination. During the year the Department co-operated with the West Riding War Agricultural Committee and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the sampling of retailer-producers in the area.

During the year the Government issued a White Paper in which they proposed to transfer the powers of the supervision of milk production to the Ministry of Agriculture. If this step is carried out it is my opinion that the milk production in the Borough is bound to suffer. The Inspectors of local authorities have local knowledge and are on the spot to deal with any problems which may arise. The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, has not given sufficient powers to local authorities but despite this, much valuable work has been done and many improvements have been carried out in this Borough to cowsheds and dairies. The Government should be prepared to grant increased powers to local authorities to carry out their work of the supervision of milk production and should make a legal bacteriological standard for raw milk. There is, without doubt, a good standard of milk production in the Borough at the present time.

(c) Meat Inspection.

No slaughtering of animals for food is taking place in the Borough at the present time. With the co-operation of the Food Executive Officer, however, I am notified whenever a licence is granted to an applicant to slaughter a pig for his own consumption. This has enabled the Sanitary Inspectors to make an inspection of every carcass. Unfortunately, the law does not permit the seizing of any carcass which is unfit for food but this scheme has been well appreciated by the majority of pig-keepers who have been enabled to secure sound advice as to the condition of the carcass.

Frequent inspections have been made of all shops and stores where meat is exposed for sale.

(d) Rat and Mouse Destruction.

The Ministry of Food issued a Direction on this Authority to carry out a survey with a view to tracing and eradicating sources of rat infestation. The Sanitary Inspectors have for some time been engaged in an advisory capacity in this work. I am glad to say that in this Borough the incidence of rat and mouse infestation is comparatively low.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

This Service has had to be maintained under extremely difficult conditions. The labour problem was acute and, also, the Department suffered very greatly by illness of employees. Salvage collection has had to take priority and has obviously resulted in the slowing down of the rate of refuse collection. Nevertheless, a fairly regular service was carried out which appeared to meet the needs of the Borough.

In addition to the existing tipping sites a new tipping site at Owlcotes, Pudsey, was commenced during the year. Tipping on controlled lines has proved very successful and the central position of this site has meant great saving of time and petrol.

Salvage Scheme.

1943 was a year when again salvage had a pre-eminent position in the war effort of the Country. The Department was responsible for the collection of 915 tons of salvage valued at £2,166-1-10. It is interesting to note that since the collection of salvage was commenced in the Borough in July, 1940, the income derived from the sale of the salvaged materials is £5,766-10-6.

In August and September a special drive for books was held in the Borough. The effort realised a record collection which was outstanding in the Yorkshire area and realised 103,317 books, representing over $3\frac{1}{2}$ books per head of the population. Every book which was collected was scrutinised and 12,012 books were despatched to the Forces and 4,836 to blitzed libraries and children's home and hospitals.

I am deeply grateful to the splendid band of workers associated with the salvage scheme. All classes are represented, school children, teachers, salvage stewards, Women's Voluntary Services, Girl Guides, etc. I express my sincere thanks to all for their enthusiasm and support and I should like to mention in particular, Mrs. J. Tordoff and Mrs. B. Walker, of Pudsey, and Mrs. J. Halliday and Mrs. J. Smith, of Calverley, who have always been ready and willing to give me the greatest assistance.

Wartime Duties.

The Department is responsible for the cleansing of public air raid shelters in the Borough and frequent inspections are made by the Sanitary Inspectors to ensure that this work is being satisfactorily carried out.

A good deal of work has been put in by the staff to make the Service for the "treatment and disposal of foodstuffs contaminated by gas" efficient. Regular squad training and practices have been in-

stituted and I have to thank Mr. B. Shaw and Mr. D. H. Evans for the time and attention they have devoted to this important Service.

The general Decontamination Service is also in my charge and during the year under review it has been augmented by the addition of 26 conscripted members. This has meant that much time has had to be devoted to training these members in the evenings and at week-ends. In connection with this I desire to express my sincere thanks to Mr. P. A. Holt, Deputy Commandant, for his ever willing services.

In conclusion, I think it will be agreed that steady progress has been made in all sections of the Department and I take this opportunity of thanking my staff for the extra duties which they have willingly borne.

H. FOSTER, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Act.

Drainage work	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	341
Refuse accommodation		...	...	...	...	...	...	272
Vermin infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	238
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	472
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Water samples taken — chemical examination					...	...	...	II
Investigation infectious disease			...	...	...	...	...	244
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
Stables, piggeries, &c.		...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Sanitary accommodation		...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	262
								<hr/>
								2259

Housing Act.

Consolidated regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Measured for permitted number	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Investigation overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Applications for Council houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
							<hr/>
							122

Food and Drugs Act.

Samples taken — Milk chemical examination	...	...	...	66
Milk designated for bacteria	...	...	...	21
Milk ordinary for bacteria	...	...	...	155
Food preparing, &c. premises	...	...	...	76
Dairies	...	...	...	131
Cowsheds	...	...	...	138
Meat and food inspection	...	...	...	190
Kitchen waste bins	...	...	...	24
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	223
				<hr/>
				1024

Factories Act.

Factories with power	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Factories without power	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
							<hr/>
							142

Shops Acts.

Forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
								— 9

Petroleum Act.

Petroleum stores	1
Carbide of calcium stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/> 2

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

Rat infestation	80
Mice infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
								<hr/> 120

Diseases of Animals Acts.

Anthrax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 2

Miscellaneous.

Reinspections where notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1887
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1096
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251
Tips and salvage depot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	454
Refuse and salvage collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	720
Meetings, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Civil Defence duties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	480
Air raid shelters	14
Railings, &c.	8
Other visits	224
								<hr/> 5242

Total Number of Visits	8922
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Notices.

Informal notices served	317
Informal notices complied with	219
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Statutory notices complied with in default	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

Work carried out in compliance with notices.

New dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Sink wastepipes cleared and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Eavesgutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Dampness of walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Soilpipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Waterclosets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stagnant pool cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Plasterwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17

Drains repaired, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dry rot removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Privy middens abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Pointing repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Articles disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Poultry-keeping discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pig-keeping discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Permanent ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke nuisance remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste watercloset abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waterclosets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Steps repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Dairy constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ranges and fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Washboiler constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspool emptied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rent books completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouse limewashed, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hot water cistern repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Food utensils cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Unsound food surrendered.

1340 tins Meat	— Decomposition.
239 tins Milk	— Decomposition.
36 tins Soup	— Decomposition.
427 tins Vegetables	— Decomposition.
34 tins Jams, &c.	— Decomposition.
1 tin Syrup	— Decomposition.
170 tins Fruit	— Decomposition.
4 tins Tomatoes	— Decomposition.
160 tins Fish	— Decomposition.
1 tin Cake Mixture	— Decomposition.
1 tin Dried Eggs	— Decomposition.
2 tins Prepared Meal	— Decomposition.
31 tins Milk Pudding	— Decomposition.
5lb. Tea	— Decomposition.
12lb. Cheese	— Decomposition.
1002lb. Bacon	— Decomposition.
9 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Lard	— Decomposition.
14lb. Chilled Pork	— Decomposition.
1810 Eggs	— Decomposition.
54 leaves Bread	— Decomposition.
2 Pig's heads	— Tuberculosis.
1 Tongue	— Tuberculosis.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

It is estimated that there are 8929 dustbins, 264 ashpits, 126 privies and pailclosets, and 24 cesspools in the Borough.

The fleet of vehicles comprises 1 Fordson 2-tonner, 3 Karrier Bantams (30cwts) and 1 Austin 3-tonner. The staff of the Department consists of 1 general foreman, 4 gang foremen, 5 drivers, 10 dustmen and salvage collectors, 4 tip and salvage men.

During the year, 248867 dustbins, 1340 ashpits and 1735 privies or pailclosets were emptied at an estimated total cost of £5759. Refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping on three tipping sites in the Borough at Rodley, Owlcotes and Tyersal.

Sanitary Inspection of Area.

Efforts were continued to secure the abolition of all ashpits in the Borough. Much progress has been made but the restrictions in supplies of dustbins have caused a slowing-down of this necessary procedure.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

(a) Council Property. Every effort is made to prevent the spread of vermin in Council houses. The Sanitary Inspectors visit the house of each prospective Council tenant and also inspect each Council house on becoming vacant.

All cases of bug infestation, except very minor cases, are dealt with by the use of hydrogen cyanide, premises and furniture alike.

During the year 10 Council houses were dealt with by this method.

(b) Infestations of private dwellings were dealt with, where possible, by hydrogen cyanide. Suphur-di-Oxide was found very suitable for dealing with minor cases. Cases of infestation have been caused by the occupier unwittingly buying second-hand furniture which has been infested. The public should be wary of purchasing second-hand furniture unless they are certain as to its cleanliness. In all 16 houses were disinfested for this purpose.

Closet Accommodation.

It is estimated that there are 8695 waterclosets in the Borough. In addition there are 126 pailclosets and privies being used in areas where there is no means of drainage.

Factories.

Factories Act 1937. Factories have been inspected so far as time has permitted both for the provisions as to health and as to means of escape in case of fire:—

Factories with mechanical power	66
Factories without mechanical power	20
Bakehouses	56

The health provisions of the Act were reasonably well interpreted by factory owners and statutory action was unnecessary. All factories

coming within the scope of the appropriate section of the Act are now provided with a certificate from this Authority as to sufficiency of means of escape in case of fire.

Housing.

1.	Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	74
	(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	314
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	5
	(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	10
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses needing further action.	
	(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	1
	(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	68
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
	No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	63
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	41
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
	(a) By owners	36
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
4.	Housing Act 1936 — Part IV Overcrowding.	
(1)	(a) No. of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year ...	43
	(b) No. of families dwelling therein	46
	(c) No. of persons dwelling therein	226
(2)	(a) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	18
	(b) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved	5
	(c) No. of persons concerned in such cases	22
5.	General Housing Conditions.	
	(a) Total number of houses in the district	9820
	(b) No. of working-class houses included in above	7602

Two houses were completed in the Borough in 1943.

No formal action was taken to secure closing or demolition of unfit houses but in one case where conditions were very bad the owner signed a voluntary agreement to close the dwelling-house and the tenant's family was rehoused in a Council house.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(A) Milk Supply.

(1) Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

No. of cowkeepers registered in the Borough	38
No. of wholesale traders registered	11
No. of retail milk sellers registered	67
No. of cowshed and dairy inspections during the year	269

155 samples of milk were taken from producers and retail purveyors of milk for examination by the methylene blue test and the resazurin test with the following results:—

Satisfactory	136	Unsatisfactory	19
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One sample of ordinary milk was found to contain Tuberculosis Bacillus and the necessary investigations were made.

Although no legal bacteriological standard exists for raw milk the results obtained by sampling serve as a good guide to the standard of milk production in the Borough.

Routine visits by the Sanitary Inspectors follow the taking of an unsatisfactory sample and every effort is made to locate and remedy the cause.

(2) Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

The West Riding County Council have issued the following licences to producers in the Borough:—

No. of licences to produce “Tuberculin-Tested” milk	2
No. of licences to produce “Accredited” milk	9

Licences to dealers in designated milks were issued by the Borough Council as follows:—

No. of licences to deal in “Tuberculin-Tested” milk	2
No. of licences to deal in “Accredited” milk	—
No. of supplementary licences to deal in “T.T.” milk	2
No. of supplementary licences to deal in “Pasteurised” milk	1

21 samples of designated milk were taken in the Borough for bacteriological examination, as follows:—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
“Accredited” milk	17	1
“Pasteurised” milk	1	1

(3) Chemical Analysis of Milk.

66 samples were taken in the Borough during the year. 6 samples were not genuine. In these latter cases, 5 warnings were issued and one Prosecution instituted by the West Riding County Council.

(B) Meat and other Foods.

The only slaughtering in the Borough was of pigs for private consumption. 190 visits were made to inspect foods which were suspected of being unfit for human consumption.

57 premises are registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act 1938 and 76 visits were made to these premises during the year.

Miscellaneous Duties.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928.

Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order 1929.

42 licences to store petroleum spirit and 2 licences to store carbide of calcium were issued during the year.

H. FOSTER, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

